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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/624,884	07/24/2000	Cathy Lee Bates	ROC920000104	6243

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EXAMINER

DUONG, OANH L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2155

DATE MAILED: 07/30/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/624,884

Applicant(s)

BATES ET AL.

Examiner

Oanh L. Duong

Art Unit

2155

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 03 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 May 2004.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-37 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang et al. (Huang) (US 6,751,245 B2) in view of Choung et al. (Choung) (US 6,487,195 B1).

Regarding claim 1, Huang teaches a method for sharing user-configured browser information between at least two network browsers configured to communicate the user-configured browser information via a network (e.g., fig. 8), comprising generating the user-configured browser information during execution of a first network browser on a first computer in response to user-input commands (e.g., col. 5 lines 25-34); and the user-configured browser information is adapted to reconfigure the second network browser (e.g., fig. 9 col. 12 line 39-col. 13 line 14).

Huang does not explicitly teach specifying, at the first computer, a second computer containing a second network browser as a recipient of the user-configured browser information from the first computer; and transmitting the user-configured browser information via the network from the first computer to the second computer.

Choung, in the same field of endeavor, teaches specifying, at the first computer, a second computer containing a second network browser as a recipient of the user-configured browser information from the first computer (col. 6 line 58-col. 7 line 42); and transmitting the user-configured browser information via the network from the first computer to the second computer (col. 1 lines 57-59). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilized the specifying step of Choung in the process of sharing user-configured browser

information between two browsers in Huang because the use of specifying step would allow to synchronize the network navigation with convenience, efficiency, and accuracy (Choung, col. 1 lines 42-43).

Regarding claim 17, a signal-bearing medium containing a browser program which, when executed by processor of claim 17 performs correspondence method of claim 1; therefore, the claim 17 is rejected under the same rationale as applied to claim 1.

Regarding claims 2 and 18, Huang teaches generating input device information representing user input to an input device connected to the first computer (e.g., col. 5 lines 29-31).

Regarding claims 3 and 19, Huang teaches generating the user-configured browser information during at least one browsing session (e.g., col. 6 lines 52-57 and col. 8 lines 28-35).

Regarding claims 4 and 20, Huang teaches generating at least one of bookmark information and favorites information (e.g., col. 6 lines 58-60).

Regarding claims 5 and 21, Huang teaches generating network addresses for electronic documents accessed during at least one browsing information (e.g., col. 6 lines 52-57 and col. 8 lines 28-35).

Regarding claims 6 and 22, Huang teaches generating user preferences information (e.g., col. 6 lines 58-60).

Regarding claims 7 and 23, Huang teaches sending an electronic mail message containing the user-configured browser information (e.g., col. 10 lines 29-35).

Regarding claims 8 and 24, Huang teaches sending an electronic mail message containing the user-configured browser information (e.g., col. 10 lines 29-35) and wherein the user-configured browser information comprises at least one of bookmark information, favorites information, user-preferences information and network addresses (e.g., col. 13 lines 12-14).

Regarding claims 9 and 25, Huang teaches transmitting occurs automatically in response to a predetermined event (col. 12 lines 1-9).

Regarding claim 10, Huang teaches transmitting occurs in response to a user command (col. 12 lines 1-9).

Regarding claims 11 and 27, Huang teaches reconfiguring the second network browser according to the user-configured browser information (col. 16 lines 25-28).

Regarding claim 12, Huang teaches buffering the user-configured browser information prior to the step of transmitting (fig. 9).

Regarding claim 13, Huang teaches a method for reconfiguring a first browser located on a first computer (fig. 9), comprising parsing user-configured browser information received from a second computer connected to the first computer via a network (col. 5 lines 25-34 and col. 12 line 39-col. 13 line 14), wherein the user-configured browser information comprises information generated during execution of a second browser located on the second computer (col. 8 lines 28-33); and reconfiguring the first browser according to the user-configured browser information (col. 11 line 39-col. 12 line 9).

Huang does not explicitly teach the first computer was specified as a recipient of the user-configured browser information at the second computer.

Choung, in the same field of endeavor, teaches the first computer was specified as a recipient of the user-configured browser information at the second computer (col. 6 line 58-col. 7 line 42). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilized the specifying step of Choung in the process of sharing user-configured browser information between two browsers in Huang because the use of specifying step would allow to synchronize the network navigation with convenience, efficiency, and accuracy (Choung, col. 1 lines 42-43).

Regarding claim 28, a signal-bearing medium containing a browser program which, when executed by a processor of claim 28 performs a correspondence method of claim 13; therefore, claim 28 is rejected under the same rationale as applied to claim 13.

Regarding claims 14 and 29, Huang teaches changing the contents of data structures of the first browser (col. 6 lines 52-57).

Regarding claims 15 and 30, Huang teaches receiving an email message containing the user-configured browser information (e.g., col. 10 lines 29-35).

Regarding claims 16 and 31, Huang teaches changing at least one of bookmark information, favorites information, user-preferences information and accessed network addresses information (e.g., col. 13 lines 12-14).

Regarding claim 32, Huang teaches an apparatus, comprising a first computer comprising processor and a first memory containing a first browser program, wherein

Art Unit: 2155

the first browser generates first browser information in response to user-input commands (col. 5 lines 25-53 and col. 11 line 47-col. 12 line 9); a second computer comprising a second processor and second memory containing a second browser program, wherein the second browser program is reconfigured according to the received first browser information (col. col. 13 lines 3-14); and a network connecting the first and second computer and configured to support transmission of the first browser information to the second computer (fig. 8 col. 11 lines 39-46).

Huang does not specifically teach and the first computer is configured to send first browser information to second computer as claimed.

Choung, in the same field of endeavor, teaches the first computer is configured to send first browser information to second computer in response to a user designation of the second computer as a recipient of the first browser information (col. 6 line 58-col. 7 line 42). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have utilized the designating step of Choung in the process of sharing user-configured browser information between two browsers in Huang because the use of specifying step would allow to synchronize the network navigation with convenience, efficiency, and accuracy (Choung, col. 1 lines 42-43).

Regarding claim 33, Huang teaches the first memory contains an electronic mail program configured to send the first browser information to the second computer (e.g., see fig. 7, col. 10 lines 29-35).

Regarding claim 34, Huang teaches the second memory contains an electronic mail program (E-MAIL, fig. 3).

Regarding claim 35, Huang teaches the first browser information comprises at least one of bookmark information, favorites information, user-preferences information and accessed network addresses information (e.g., col. 13 lines 12-14).

Regarding claim 36, Huang teaches the second computer is configured to generate second browser information in response to user commands input to the second computer and wherein the second browser information is sent to the first browser program via the network and is utilized to reconfigure the first browser program (col. 5 lines 25-34 and col. 11 lines 39-61)

Regarding claim 37, Huang teaches browser information comprises at least one of bookmark information, favorites information, user-preferences information and accessed network addresses information (col. 13 lines 3-14).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. Claims 1, 13, 17, 28 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mullen-Schultz (US 6,393,462).

Regarding claim 1, 13, 17, 18 and 32, Mullen-Schultz teaches a method for sharing user-configured browser information between at least two network browsers configured to communicate the user-configured browser information via a network (abstract), comprising:

generating the user-configured browser information during execution of a first network browser on a first computer in response to user-input commands; specifying, at the first computer, a second computer containing a second network browser as a

Art Unit: 2155

recipient of the user-configured browser information from the first computer; and transmit the user-configured browser information via the network, from the first computer to the second computer where the user-configured browser information is adapted to reconfigure the second network browser (Figs 3-4, 6 and 11, col. 7 line 13-col. 8 line 37 and col. 11 line 7-34).

The applied reference has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) might be overcome either by a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not the invention "by another," or by an appropriate showing under 37 CFR 1.131.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Oanh L. Duong whose telephone number is (703) 305-0295. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday, 8:00AM - 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T. Alam can be reached on (703) 308-6662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2155

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

O.D
July 23, 2004


HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER